

PROGRAM STRATEGY (LOGIC MODEL) – EDUCATION

NOTES: Throughout, items in **bold** signify potential NPF Priorities. Also, every park has its own group of underserved audiences (as identified by park units) that may need to be targeted.



RESOURCES

- People
- Money
- Information
- Equipment
- Facilities
- Materials and Supplies
- Schedule
- Standards and Policy

Program Specific Concerns:

- Transportation for students to come to the park



ACTIVITIES – Leadership

- **Involve key administrators**
- **Facilitate teachers use of park as a resource / learning environment**
 - Provide teachers opportunity to interact with students in new/different educational setting
- Create a culture of learning
- Strategic planning
- Provide staff access to good training
 - Train staff to work with teachers
- Obtain stakeholder buy-in and commitment
- Institutionalize partnerships
- Identify shared definition of goals and objectives and benchmarks for success



ACTIVITIES – Program Development

- **Identify learning barriers of the audience**
- **Define broad menu of program delivery options**
- **Gather info on current status; benchmark**
- **Evaluate delivery methods**
- **Assess effectiveness**
- **Modify programs based on evaluation**
- **Integrate research / learning theory / other academic research**
- **Define / identify audience**
- **Identify educational needs of the audience**
- **Tell compelling stories – make curriculum relevant to the audience**
- **Plan**
- **Include leaders in programming**
- **Improve content**
- **Create environment for enjoyment**
- **Link to the IDP**
- **Link parks with related stories (thematic links)**
- **Integrate technology: e.g. create distance learning opportunities**
- **Create support materials for audiences (curriculum aides, worksheets, web-based)**
- **Create pre, post activities that compliment program (continuum)**



ACTIVITIES – Community Engagement

- **Create collaboration of teachers and non-formal institutions**
- **Go to the audience**
- Build a complex web of services and support for students and community – i.e. systemic approach
- Collaborate with teachers/ schools/ administrators/ community leaders
- Create partnerships in community / build ties
- Marketing
 - Advertising
- Bring your audience to the park



PROGRAM DELIVERY

- Age/Developmentally appropriate – content and pedagogy
 - Active involvement of the learner
 - Active exploration (learn by doing)
 - Investigate actively & imaginatively through the senses
 - Engaged in meaningful action in the park
 - Hands-on
 - Experiential
 - Place-based learning; field-based
 - Community-based (connected to issues in the local community)
 - Real world
 - Relevant
 - Authentic
 - Use the “real stuff” – Object-based
 - Connect classroom content to real world issues, context
 - Interdisciplinary – cross all disciplines
- Connected to school curriculum – including National and/or local standards
 - Model the process of scientific or historical research
 - Inquiry-based
 - Include preparatory experiences and follow-up experiences (pre/post-visit activities)
 - Rooted in theory and grounded in best practices
 - Culturally competent; Inclusive; Multicultural; Multi-sided
 - Constructivist – Learner-centered;
 - Thematically structured – connected to larger themes (park and school curriculum)
 - Meaningful
 - Addresses multiple learning styles
 - Utilizes a variety of learner group settings (individual, pairs, small group, large group)



AUDIENCES

- **Teachers**
 - **Pre-service teachers**
 - **Early childhood**
 - **High schoolers**
 - Local communities
 - Boards of Education
 - School administrators (principals, vice-principals, curriculum specialists, superintendents, etc.)
 - Volunteers with schools systems (parents, seniors, school aides, chaperones)
 - Low income
 - Hearing and vision impaired
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- Those with alternate learning styles
 - Students
 - Summer school
 - Rural
 - Urban students
 - Undergraduates
 - Graduate School
 - GED students
 - Home schoolers
 - After school program



REACTIONS

- Relevant
- Enjoyable
- Fun
- Excitement
- Memorable

KNOWLEDGE

- Science, history, and culture
- Students understand reason park was created
- Park message
- Learn about park resources
- Info about National Park System
- Info about all managed public lands
- Students can fit an issue into a larger world view
- Interconnectedness of nature
- Career knowledge

- Learning happens across lifetime, not just during school
- That learning happens across the community, not just in school

Teachers

- Learning theory
- Innovative pedagogy
- That learning happens across the community, not just in school
- Learning happens across lifetime, not just during school



ATTITUDE

- Finds personal relevance
- Connection with Ranger
- Improved teacher / student relationships
- Construct or reconstruct meaning
- Sense of place
- Build a sense of community
- Care about the resource
- Grow to love, appreciate, and respect the Park and National Parks in general
- Develop a sense of ownership
- Gain an environmental ethic
- Inspiration
- Life-long love of learning
- Invigorated
- Open to new ideas
- Discover an inner strength / self-confidence
- Believe they can make a difference
- Empowerment
- Believe they can be part of the solution
- Change attitude toward subject matter (people, places, things)
- Lifetime memories
- Empathy



SKILLS

- Critical thinking
- Citizenship skills
- Discovery
- Inquiry
- Decision-making skills
- Civic competency
- More effective self-evaluation
- Ability to be interdisciplinary
- Investigative skills



BEHAVIOR

Students

- Discusses new ideas/discoveries with others
- Continued learning
- Care for the resource
- Return visitor and brings friends
- Increased involvement with park/resource
- Active involvement in conservation and preservation of heritage and resources
- Advocacy
- Civil action
- Career choices
- Lifestyle choices

Teachers

- Improved teaching skills
- Increased collaboration
- Improve curriculum
- Use Parks as labs
- Become community leaders



MISSION

“... to strengthen the enduring connection between the American people and their National Parks...”

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

- Preserve America’s Heritage
- Conserve Resources
- Promote Learning
- Enhance Quality of Life